

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00

CAB-09 COME-00 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /060 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ZURICH PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT- ANTITRUST INVESTIGATION OF CERTAIN FOREIGN AIR
CARRIERS

REF: STATE 136709

1. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PROVIDED ADDITIONAL DAY (UNTIL COB
JUNE 27) FOR U.S. COUNSELS FOR THE FOUR FOREIGN AIRLINES
TO PROVIDE ASSURANCES THAT THE CARRIERS WOULD VOLUNTARILY
PROVIDE RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND PRODUCE INDIVIDUAL PARTICI-
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PANTS TO TESTIFY BEFORE GRAND JURY. ALTHOUGH U.S. COUNSELS

INDICATED WILLINGNESS IN PRINCIPLE TO COOPERATE, THEY
COULD NOT PROVIDE SUFFICIENTLY FIRM ASSURANCES. THEREFORE,
JUSTICE SERVED SUBPOENAS JUNE 28 ON THE FOUR EXECUTIVES
NAMED PARA 2 REFTEL.

2. IN RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES, ADDRESSEES SHOULD EMPHASIZE
POINTS IN PARAS. 3 AND 4 OF REFTEL. DEPARTMENT REGRETS
THAT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND
U.S. COUNSEL FOR THE AIRLINES WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. DEPART-
MENTS OF STATE AND JUSTICE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT, HOWEVER,
TO REDUCE INCONVENIENCE TO FOREIGN EXECUTIVES.

3. RESPONSE BY WASHINGTON EMBASSIES HAS BEEN RESTRAINED
AND MORE POSITIVE THAN EXPECTED, GENERALLY AN EXPRESSION

OF APPRECIATION FOR COURTESY OF ADVANCE NOTIFICATION
AND OFFER OF CONSULTATION. SWISS EMBASSY OFFICERS DID
EXPRESS IRRITATION, HOWEVER, AT "EXPLOITATION" OF FORT
LAUDERDALE IATA MEETING FOR SERVING OF SUBPOENAS. ONLY
ONE PRESS INQUIRY HAS BEEN RECEIVED (BY JUSTICE) BUT
NATURE OF QUESTIONS INDICATED REPORTER MAY HAVE BEEN
BRIEFED IN ADVANCE BY SWISS AIR.

4. PLEASE REPORT ANY SIGNIFICANT REACTIONS FROM HOST
GOVERNMENTS OR PRESS. SISCO

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Message Attributes

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